

THE ROMULUS ROMAN

Vol. 118, No. 23

News you can use, news you can trust

Elegant
recipes
made easy
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District tries to attract new students

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

In an open letter to parents and community residents, the Romulus Community School District is asking for support by encouraging parents who may have sent their children to another school to come back.

The letter said that the recent financial problems the district has experienced are, in part, caused by the number of schools that have cropped up in the area – and the ones that will accept Romulus students and the dollars that come with them.

“We drafted a letter to better explain what’s happening, and I think residents will understand what we’re going through,” said Dick Kruse, a spokesman for the Romulus Community School District.

Last week the schools announced that 47 employees would be laid off in an attempt to curb a \$3.1 million deficit.

Many surrounding school districts – like Wayne-Westland – are taking part in the state Schools of Choice program. Approved in 1996 by the state legislature, the Schools of Choice

provision allows students to transfer to other participating districts within the Intermediate School District. The law was intended to create competition among schools districts.

In the past few years, about 700 Romulus students have been lost other schools, according to district records. That translates into about \$4.5 million in funding that is going elsewhere, Kruse said.

“We talk about the outsourcing of jobs in the state,” he said. “This is really like an outsourcing of students. We needed to ask for more support.”

Though several area school districts take part in Schools of Choice, the Romulus district does not, so there are few opportunities for the schools to re-coup students. Celeste Roscoe, a member of the Romulus Board of Education, said the board has not broached the subject of changing enrollment policies.

“I think we have other things we need to address first, and I think we have other avenues we can pursue,” she said. “We have not even gotten to the point where this has come up. I just don’t think it would be fair to

speculate right now.”

It’s not clear whether a change in superintendents – Joel Carr is retiring in August – might spur a discussion. Carr’s replacement, Carl Weiss of the Dearborn 7 school district, is coming to Romulus from a Schools of Choice environment.

Any attempt to take students from outside the district may anger residents, Kruse said. Last fall, the district made headlines after it was revealed in the news media that some students attending Romulus Schools might not live in the city.

Angry parents and residents showed up at a school board meeting to tell officials that it’s unacceptable for outside students to attend classes in Romulus because their parents are not paying taxes to fund the schools.

The schools also received some bad news earlier this year when Michigan Educational Assessment Program test scores came in below expectations. Still, Kruse said the schools would tout the good aspects of the district.

“Whoever is here will make a priority out of getting students back,” he said.

Grant will pay for new trees

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Warm weather means it’s time for fun in the sun, but for Department of Public Service Workers, it’s time to take on a nasty little bug.

The Emerald Ash Borer, a beetle-like creature that furrows its way through ash trees and destroys their roots, invaded Michigan about four years ago. The bug’s presence means municipalities have had to find resources – and dollars – to cut down infected trees so the pest does not spread from place to place.

Romulus will be able to save on the replanting of lost trees thanks to a grant from the Emerald Ash Borer Planting Grant Program, which is part of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

The grant allows the city to receive state reimbursement of \$40 dollars per tree. Planting a new tree costs the city about \$55, according to Richard Suiter, the assistant director of the Romulus Department of Public Works.

Romulus City Council members voted to participate in the program for a second year at



Top 10

Top 10 lists are a big craze right now, and Romulus High School is no exception. Here, the top 10 graduates of the Romulus High School Class of 2006 got together for at the Senior Awards Night. They are (first row) Ashlee Moss, Bradley Bills, Doloris Garry, Ayibaturi Burutolu, and salutatorian Carla Anderson. In the second row are Valedictorian Jonathan McLaughlin, Adam Delay, Megan Bearman, Jennifer Lammers and Amanda Nowicki. About 380 seniors came out for the awards ceremony.

Graduates earn \$1.1 million in college aid

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Community organizations gave \$31,000 to help send students in Romulus to college.

School district estimates also indicate that, when totaled, Romulus High School seniors earned about \$1.1 million in college scholarships, said Dan Hurst, principal at the school.

“We know that our students will continue to earn more scholarships in June, and we look forward to increasing the final total by several hundred thousand

dollars,” Hurst said.

The scholarships earned by Romulus students are combination of public, private and charitable endowments. This year, 46 students earned \$2,500 Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) scholarships, and others earned the \$1,500 American Collegiate Test (ACT) scholarship. Countless others were wooed by colleges and universities with funds, and community groups stepped in the help students defray the costs of higher learning.

All of the students who

received the MEAP and ACT scholarships maintained a 3.0 grade point average during four years of high school, according to district figures.

Booker Dozier, an area philanthropist from Inkster who manages a non-profit fund named after his late wife, Flora, recently gave a \$1,000 scholarship to Jessica Workman, a 17-year-old senior at Romulus High School.

“We all have the same goals,” he said. “If you’ve done some-

See **Students**, page 3See **Bug**, page 3

DEMCO 128-5046

Chemistry saves
The break-up

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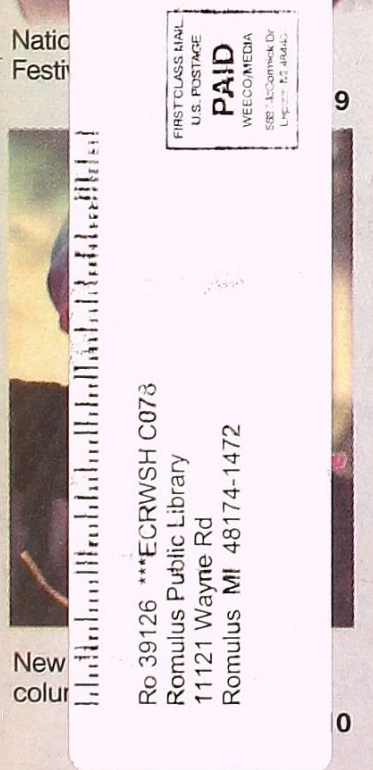
Features

Summertime events
abound in area

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New
color

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Romulus Public Library
11121 Wayne Rd
Romulus MI 48174-1472

Graduation day Alternative Education students earn diplomas

Andrea King
Staff Writer

May 26 was a special day for 31 students at the Van Buren Public School Alternative Education facility.

That was the day they overcame the odds and walked across the stage at Belleville High School to receive their diplomas, a feat many thought they could never accomplish.

Saul Davis, principal of the first-ever alternative education facility in the school district, said the school got the students where they needed to go.

"A lot of the kids hustled to meet the requirements and we saw some surprises," he said. "We had a good finish to the school year and there was a significant number of graduating kids for a first-year program."

English Teacher Stephanie Kerns was the key speaker at the commencement attended by more than 200 family members and friends of the graduates. She congratulated the students on the sacrifice and determination that it took for the graduates to reach their goal.

"This night is not just your own," she told them. "You see while you are here because you found faith, maturity and discipline within yourselves, you are also here through the sheer grace and will of others. You are here because of the unflinching faith of those who believed in you when you did not believe in you, and, who saw in you a hope

and a greatness that you could not yet see."

Class President Iyanna Young also applauded the graduates on a job well done and said that sometimes it was not always a certainty that they would complete their studies.

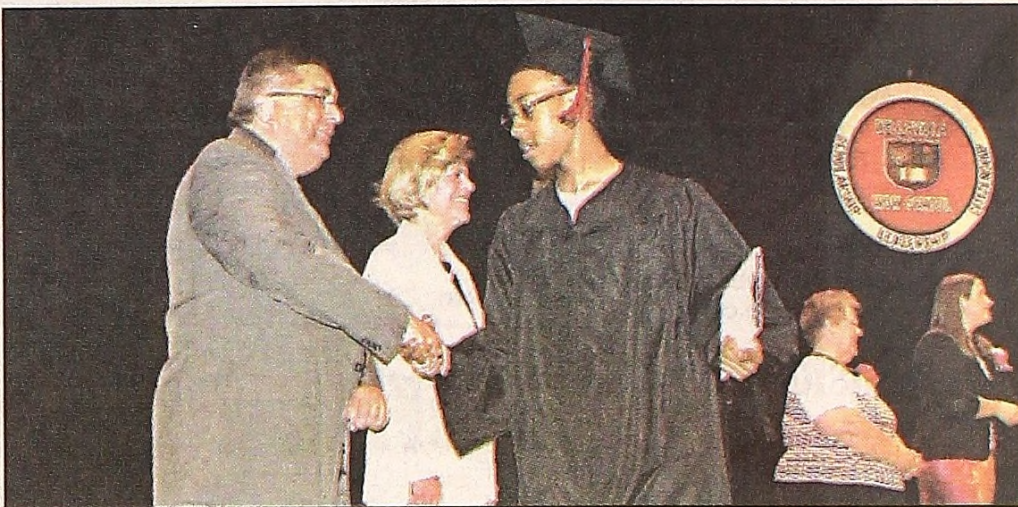
"How will your name be known from here?" Young said during her ceremony speech. "It is all up to you from here."

Last fall, the alternative education program started the school year with 134 students, but with a 30 percent dropout rate, the school year ended with 105 students and just 31 graduates.

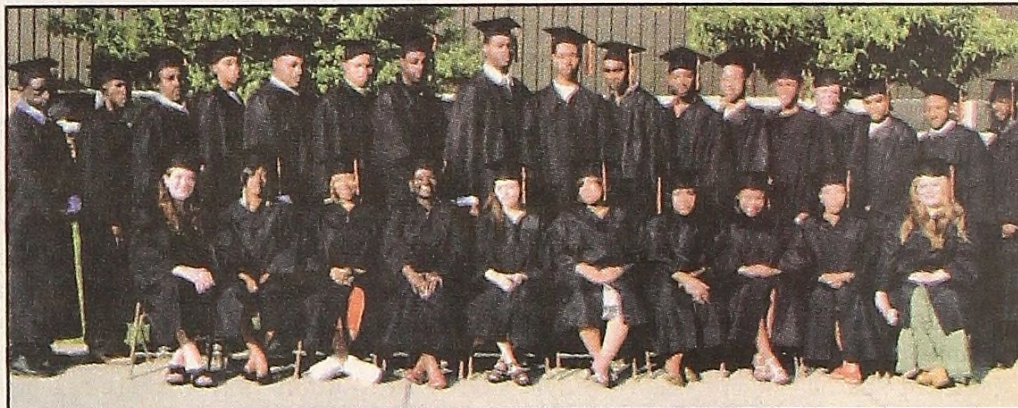
"A significant number of students have not been successful in school for various reasons: dysfunctional families, behavioral problems, pregnancy issues and sometimes there's no expectations for success in the families that may transition over," said Davis. "Without this program a large percentage of kids probably would have dropped out of school."

In general, most students came into the program with a .86 grade point average because they have failed numerous classes. Even though many struggled to bring that grade point up, Davis said he saw significant changes between the first and second semester.

"When you're talking a .86 grade point average they can pull all A's and all B's and still not bring it up that much. It's just not possible, especially in a short amount of time," he said. "With students who came in



Superintendent Pete Lazaroff congratulates graduate Mikel Kirby as he receives his diploma.



The 2006 alternative education graduating class includes: (pictured) Reouqis Nelson, Michael Tubbs, Cordell Minor, Levan Burgen, Tyriskes Barnes, Justin Lowe, Dion Stevenson, Michael Gibson, Justin Williamson, Sedrick Jackson, Mario Williams, Mikel Kirby, DeAnte' Dill, Kevin Robertson, Renaldo Wiley, Carlos Luckey, Ceddrick Ezell, Mark Duffie, Chellsea Wilson, Tanisha Parker, Amber Richmond, Margaret Gillespie, Christina Cilley, Sharde' Williams, Ashley Parker, Marquita Luckett, Iyana Young and Stephanie Gincott.

with a .86 they found they were able to get it up at least one grade, which is good, but it's still a long way to go. Overall, many students saw what they had to do and stepped up to the plate."

School officials said the commencement was both encouraging and inspirational as the young men and women received their diplomas one by one.

"This is a group of kids who for whatever reason traditional education wasn't working for them and they persevered," said Paul Henning, spokesperson for the district.

"This is very special for both the graduates and the staff," said Superintendent Pete Lazaroff. "This truly is why we do what we do: encourage dreams and to help achieve goals."

The Churches of Greater Detroit invites you to a:

Victorious Living Conference 2006

June 20 - 23, 2006

Convening at:
Romulus High School, 9650 S. Wayne Rd., Romulus, MI 48174

Featured each Night:



Recording Artist
Pastor Rance Allen

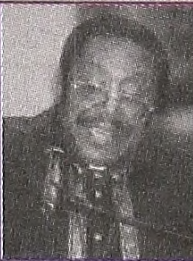
Worship:
7:00 p.m. Nightly

Special Guest Speaker:



National Evangelist
Dorinda Clark Cole

Conference Speakers:

Tuesday  Bishop Earl J. Wright Jurisdictional Prelate	Wednesday  Pastor Rance Allen Recording Artist	Thursday  Supt. James L. Whitehead District Superintendent	Friday: Women in Ministry  Missy Virginia Burgess Dis. Missy. in charge	Friday: 8:30 p.m.  Evangelist Dorinda Clark Cole Guest Speaker	Special Music:  Greater Detroit District Mass Choir  Whitehead Mem. Dancers, Steppers & Combined Youth Choir
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Youth Festival: 5:30 p.m. Nightly

Activities for Youth: 3-18 yrs.

- *Classes
- *Athletics
- *Games
- *Drama
- *Rap Sessions
- *Refreshments
- *Videos
- *Fun for all ages

Min. Avery Brown & Missy. Dolly Thurmond

Also Featuring Recording Artist:

Darius Twyman

(Song: "I've Got a Job Working for Jesus")

Friday: Women's Ministry

Dinner Hour.....4:00 p.m.

Workshop.....5:00 p.m.

Worship Service.....6:00 p.m.

Dramatic Play.....7:00-7:30 p.m.

Official Message: District Missy Virginia Burgess

MT. OF OLIVES PRAISE DANCERS



Supt. & Mrs. James L. Whitehead, Jr. Conference Host 2006



Supt. James L. Whitehead Jr., District Superintendent * Missy Virginia Burgess, District Missionary
Bishop Earl J. Wright, Jurisdictional Prelate * Mother Frances S. Curtis, Jurisdictional Supervisor

Supporting District Churches:
New Hope COGIC, Pastor Gerry Boyd, Mt. of Olives COGIC, Pastor Barry Pelt, Saints City COGIC & Whitehead Memorial COGIC, Pastor James L. Whitehead

A SPECIAL DRAMATIC PLAY - FRIDAY, JUNE 23RD, 7:00 P.M.

Pastor prepares to say good-bye to congregants

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

When the Rev. William Kren first came to the Romulus United Methodist Church eight years ago, he had no idea he would become involved in city affairs in such a specific way.

But running a 160-member church gives a man some practice, and as he says good-bye to the church at the end of this month, a lot of things to reflect on.

"As I look back, I think we did a lot of good here," said Kren. "I just fell in love with Romulus, and even though my run here is ending, I still want to stay involved."

Kren, 59, is not only leaving his church in Romulus, but leaving the church all together. Ordained in a different faith, he became involved with the United Methodist Church at a time when there was a shortage of ministers.

But one move into a different zone of the Methodist Church caused a situation many parishioners and Kren find unfortunate – he was asked to give up his job unexpectedly.

"I don't want to say too much about it," he said. "(The church) is within it's rights to put someone else here, but I'm going to miss it. It's been hard on me, but it's always harder on a congregation when something like this happens."

Kren's tenure as a minister began more than 20 years ago, when he graduated from Asbury College in Wilmore, KY. He went onto accept positions in Ohio and Michigan before landing in Romulus in 1998.

Through the years, Kren has racked up accomplishments in and outside of church – especially in Romulus, where continues to be an active force on the Mayor's Drug Prevention Task Force, the Chamber of

Commerce and the Downtown Development Authority. He says he's most proud of his oversight of a \$3 million expansion at the Olive Street facility.

"We did a good job with that, and it was the right thing to do for the church," he said.

Kren – who is also the president of the Romulus Association of Ministers – said he is also proud that he expanded his role in the city and became involved in local affairs. His involvement with the downtown development group and the chamber, Kren said, allowed him to reach more residents than he did at church.

"There's always so much going on," he said. "I try to stay active in volunteer efforts. It makes a difference in the community, and the people in the city are great to work with."

Linda McNeil, one of Kren's congregants, said those who attend the church are trying to be positive as the final weeks of the

minister's tenure at Romulus United come to a close.

"We're just devastated by all of this," she said. "He's a wonderful man, and we tried to appeal to the United Methodist Church to reverse this decision. Now he's going to be out of a job, and that's why we're having a fundraiser for him."

McNeil added that the congregants signed a letter in support of Kren to the church, but that they never received a reply. She added that some church members are re-considering going to the church.

"We're going to miss him a great deal," she said.

Up until recently, the Romulus United Methodist Church was part of the Ann Arbor zone of churches, but was recently moved to the West Detroit zone, McNeil said.

Kren said he and his wife, Elizabeth, recently moved to Belleville, and that he will resign



Rev. William Kren

most of his posts in Romulus.

"But I still want to stay nearby," he said. "I'll be a minister again."

To say goodbye to Kren, McNeil has planned a spaghetti dinner at the Romulus Progressive Hall. The proceeds will help assist Kren during his transition. For more information, call McNeil at (734) 942-7520.

News in brief

City will commemorate flag

To celebrate National Flag Day on June 14, VFW Post 9568 will hoist a new flag at 5:30 p.m. at the Towers apartment community, across from the Romulus Senior Center.

At 6 p.m. a ceremony honoring Romulus veterans will begin. Betsy Ross and Uncle Sam will be there, and light refreshments will be served.

The first 75 people to arrive at the event will receive a gift at the event.

The Romulus Senior Center is located at 36525 Bibbins Road.

To sign up to attend the event, or for further information, call (734) 955-4120.

YWCA offers summer day camp

The Western Wayne County YWCA has organized its 2006 Summer Day Camp.

Students are invited to spend the summer having fun, making new friends, going on field trips and playing games for the entire summer.

Each week of camp will have a different theme. Children will spend a week showing their support for the United States, discovering the great outdoors, learning about different countries, and exploring outer space, to name a few. Camp activities include swimming, basketball, games, scavenger hunts, science experiments, movies, arts and crafts, pizza parties, field trips, and a talent show.

Camp begins June 26 and ends Aug. 18. Campers will meet from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Before and after care is available. Children can sign up for the entire eight-week camp, or on a weekly or daily basis. Sibling discounts are available.

For more information or to register your child, call the YWCA Western Wayne Co Camp Department at (313) 561-4110 ext. 17.

Historical Society hosts flea market

It's the time of year to find bargains, and the Romulus Historical Society wants the annual flea market shoppers' first stop.

The flea market will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, June 17, at the Romulus Historical Park. Everything from crafts to furniture will be on sale.

Food and refreshments will be on-hand for shoppers. Proceeds from the sale of \$15 vendor spaces will help fund historical society activities.

Students - College aid figures expected to increase

FROM PAGE 1

thing to give back to people who need help, you've led a good life."

Workman will pick up her scholarship officially at a banquet on Saturday, Dozier said.

Dick Kruse, a spokesman for the district, said school administrators are grateful to the community groups.

"We're gratified that so many people want to help our students," he said. "The students did really well this year."

Many students received scholarships from several sources during the Senior Awards Night at the high school last week. About 380 students attended, and 57 of those picked up additional monies.

All 15 Michigan state-funded schools announced tuition increases in 2005. The three largest schools – the University of Michigan, Michigan State, and Wayne State – announced tuition hikes of 12 percent or more, while increases at other schools ranged between 7 percent and 19 percent, according to a Mackinac Center for Public Policy report.



Good health

Mayor Alan R. Lambert was joined by City of Romulus officials and representatives from the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce in welcoming Business Health Services and their new building into Romulus. The open house and ribbon cutting ceremony took place May 16 at the new facility on Ecorse Road. Here, Lambert is surrounded by (front row); Business Health Services' Director Joe Hymes, City Personnel Director Sandra Rivers, Dr. Anthony Burton, and Clinic Manager Carol Proodian. Account Executive Maia Warren, Dr. Milt Dupuy, Account Executive Shirley Priskorn, Glenn Murry, Jacqueline Simpson, Michele Gibson, Cathy Speckman and Shari Wilson are in the back row.

Bug - Emerald Ash Borer is responsible for statewide loss of trees, replacement fees are available

FROM PAGE 1

their regular Monday night meeting.

Councilman William Crova said the city was pleased to participate in the program again because there's no general fund dollars available for such and

endeavor.

"The trees would not be a top priority if it weren't for this program," he said. "It's not the kind of thing that would come before keeping police on the streets and maintaining public safety. But it's good to be able to do."

Planting duties are taken on

not only by public service workers, but also by community groups. The efforts to reforest the community come after several years of tearing down infected trees. The first planting took place last year, according to Crova.

The ash borer is believed to have arrived in Michigan in 2002

in some packing crates from Asia. Since then, about 12 to 15 million trees have died in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, according to the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Southeastern Michigan, by far, has sustained the largest losses.

Quarantines are in place in

other parts of the city and state so the bug is not able to infect trees in other areas not afflicted by the disease, according to the study.

To report a tree that may have ash borer disease, call the Michigan Department of Agriculture hotline at 1 (866) 325-0023.

OPINION

Reshuffling the deck

One thing is pretty apparent in the line up of candidates seeking office this year: term limits aren't working.

The intent of the concept, we believe, was to open the door to political office to some new and fresh faces and to cut down on the number of career politicians that we continually see in office.

Now, as many in the State House of Representatives and other branches of government are facing the end of their allotted reign, what do we see? The same people popping up in other places. It's not a new deck, merely a reshuffled one.

We've got former senators and state representatives campaigning for county commission. State representatives running for state senate and so on and so on.

Even the fresh faces we see trying to convince voters to send them to office bear the names of others who have served in some capacity, the McNamaras and the Stewarts, hoping the name recognition alone will be enough to put them over the top.

Sure, they'll talk about their experience. They'll talk about their connections to the local community. They'll talk about just about everything except what is needed to turn the state around and knock it free from this single state recession in which we are mired.

In the meantime, the state pension system has added millions of dollars to the cost of providing for these people in their golden years—even though some may have only served a relative few short years in office. We should all be so lucky.

If true political reform is wanted—and it is needed, the current state of affairs clearly dictates that, as well as it does that the familiar faces haven't done much to solve the problem—we need to attack the problem at the base. We need, somehow, to wean ourselves from the two party process, which often leaves voters with very little choice in who they elect to office.

Until we somehow find a way to offer voters a better selection of candidates, we'll probably still see the same ones cropping up again and again.

She's a grand old flag

Tucked in between ceremonies honoring our veterans and the birth of our nation, there is an oft-forgotten holiday.

While some residents may remember that June 14 is Flag Day and then proudly display the old Star Spangled Banner or use it as a reason to replace the worn and faded one that has rippled in the breeze all year long, it's uncommon for municipalities themselves to recognize the day, or what it symbolizes.

Except in the City of Westland.

Beginning at 5 p.m. on that day, a number of groups will gather behind Westland City Hall for a ceremony that pays tribute to the symbol of our nation.

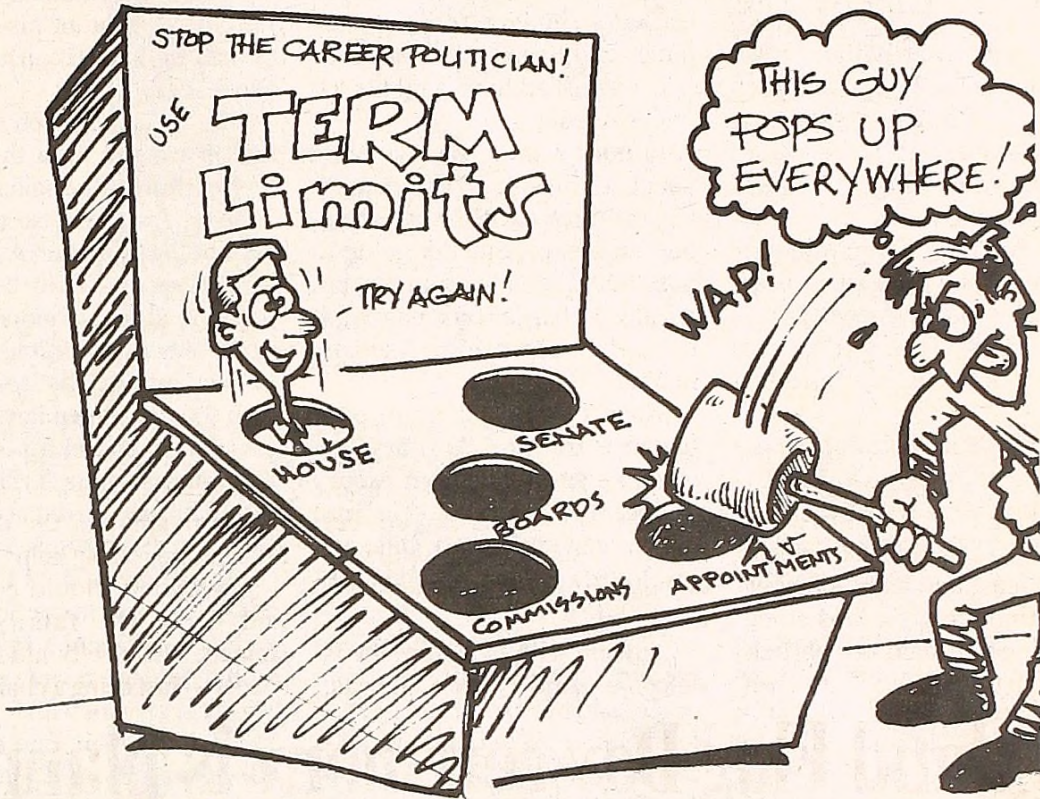
The ceremony dates back 20 years and was designed—as you might expect—to increase awareness of the holiday and everything our flag has stood for over the years.

It's not a long ceremony, only about half an hour, but it promises to be quite moving, with speeches from military and civic groups, patriotic sing-alongs and more.

We think it's a nice tradition, and groups like the V.F.W. Post 3323 and the post Ladies Auxiliary, the Westland Civitan Club, and the City of Westland deserve some credit for starting it up and carrying it on through the years.

It's often easy to remember the sacrifice members of our Armed Services pay in defense of our country and the cause of freedom world wide. It's certainly easy to remember the birth of our nation when that anniversary rolls around every July.

See **Flag**, page 5



'No surprises' rule needed

As the Wayne City Council finishes deliberations on the fiscal year for 2006-2007, I keep asking myself the same two questions:

How did we get here and how can we stop it from happening again?

Both are vexing.

The city administration has pointed to several factors as reasons the budget sessions have been particularly painful. They've talked about the increasing costs of labor, the skyrocketing price of health insurance, retirement costs and utilities and the relatively stagnant revenue stream. A reduced or frozen state shared revenue allocation—at a time when even the status quo equates to a marked decrease—as well as a static or slowly dwindling population has hurt, too.

I understand all this, but I understood it last year and the year before, too. Didn't they know when they approved employee contracts last year that it would have an impact on the budget this year?

The strangest part to me is the change in tone between the budget goal setting sessions earlier in the year and the decision to push off the receipt of the budget months later. It seemed to take members of the council by surprise; they quickly tabled a few projects that were later approved by a council vote.

City officials are quick to point out that they're in the same boat as a lot of other municipalities, too, and better off than most of our neighbors. Well, a few years removed from a failed Headlee Override vote in the City of Plymouth, officials there have increased their budget surplus to more than

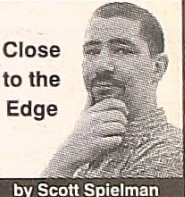
\$800,000. Northville and Westland have made strides in that area, too. Maybe it's because they've done more than looking at relatively small items like re-evaluating the coffee policy and copier lease or purchase agreements.

As far as how we avoid this problem in the future, I'd say that's pretty obvious. More oversight is needed. The city council should be a little chagrined that these types of decisions came to light at a relatively late hour. This is obviously something that needs to be looked at—really looked at, not just glanced over—more than once a year. That's why the suggestion to have monthly budget reports in front of the council is a good idea.

Granted, that won't completely fix the problem. They still need to look at long-term spending practices and how to fix them, or come up with a way to ease the burden on the general fund—without simply tapping into the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) budget, the way they decided to do Monday night. Those funds are supposed to be spent within the DDA district itself, and you can do a lot with them, but transferring money out to bolster the fund balance? I'm not too sure about that.

Monthly budget reports won't give the council all the answers, but it will give them a clear picture of what's going on throughout the year and give them some additional ammunition when these decisions have to be made again.

Because without some larger fixes, they will need to do that.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Veterans Park will entertain, teach

Construction crews are always out there. Middle school students stop and gawk after the last bell of the day rings. People slow down a little sooner before they hit the light at Main and Church streets.

Not because of some flashy new development, but because of the soon-to-be open Plymouth Community Veterans Memorial Park.

Once it opens, the park will serve several purposes.

It will give families a place to relax and visit on a nice, sunny afternoon. Children will be able to run through the park while mom and dad watch the sun set.

Retired war veterans will be able to reminisce in front of one of the seven monuments the park will feature. Not many of them will be able to say, "I remember when" about many of the wars represented—The Civil War, Spanish-American War, The Korean War, Vietnam, and World War I—those battles took place way before many visitors were born.

While those plans serve as great motivators for the establishment of the park, the most pertinent purpose, to me, concerns those who are much, much too young to even remember those historic

clashes.

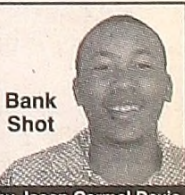
The park will serve as an awesome backdrop for field trips. Students will be able to badger their teachers about who, what, where, when, why and how.

They'll be able to learn about each war by visiting the Veteran's Plaza, to be located in the central portion of the park. The plaza will be made up of several tablets that will tell stories about each war. The tablets will range in height from 4 to 7 feet and each block will be 4-feet wide. The height of the tablets corresponds with the number of casualties in each war.

Pupils will learn to know the names armed forces veterans by reading gray paver bricks that will honor those individuals.

Most importantly, they'll have a better understanding of the history of this country. The children will know what it took so that they could have the opportunities they are afforded today.

The park cost about \$500,000 to establish. You can't put a price on the number of people it will reach, though.



Bank Shot

by Jason Carmel Davis

JOURNAL

NEWSPAPERS

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NATIONAL NEWS-PAPERS ASSOCIATION

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Publications of Willow Media, L.L.C.

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The Romulus Roman • The Wayne Eagle • The Westland Eagle

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Relay for Life planned for this Saturday

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

The sounds of music, laughter, and talking often echo across Central City Park in downtown Westland.

When the sixth annual Relay for Life of Westland opens Saturday, however, those sounds will represent more than people out to have a good time—they'll also mark the sound of cancer research as it steps into public awareness and closer to a cure.

During the relay, teams of families, co-workers, and civic organizations maintain a constant presence in the park during the 24-hour event. In return for donations, at least one team member will continue to walk laps along the jogging path laid out participants at all times.

"We have about 28 teams so far," said Jenny McFarlane, community development director for the American Cancer Society. "We're bigger than we were last year and we're continuing to grow."

The walking raises funds that are then used by the American Cancer Society in their quest to find a cure and to help those battling cancer, she said.

"The goal for the event this year is \$113,000," said McFarlane. "It raised \$103,000 last year."

The event will begin at 10 a.m. Saturday with the opening ceremony. For a few hours, the track will be filled with volunteers, but at 4 p.m., a special group will take to the path for a cancer survivors' victory lap.

"Anyone who is a survivor is welcome," said Lynette Hobyak,

co-chair of the Westland Relay For Life Events Committee.

"There's lots of entertainment," said McFarlane. "There is going to be a moonwalk, rock climbing wall, and we have a few different bands scheduled to perform."

Whether they are there as participants or simply to enjoy the activity, everyone is welcome.

"A lot of people in the community don't realize what Relay for Life is all about," said Hobyak. "We want to change that."

For those who want to get involved, Hobyak said that "just coming to the park and participating in some of the different fundraisers is a big help."

"Everyone should come out and bring the family," said Hobyak. "It's pretty much a free concert—just bring a chair."

One of the moving points of the entire event, she said, is the lumina ceremony, which takes place at 10 p.m. Hobyak said that the ceremony would include a few songs by a church choir and then the whirl of bagpipe music. The focal point of the ceremony, she said, would be a silent walk around as candles placed inside of white bags—some decorated with names, poems, photos, or other memories—are lit in honor or in memory of someone impacted by cancer. The luminary bags—which will be available onsite for a \$10 donation—are then used to help light the walking path.

"It's pretty emotional," said Hobyak. "It's a happy and a sad thing all in one. In my opinion, it attracts one of—if not the—largest groups of people."

Westland Flag Day ceremony is planned

The flag of the United States may be comprised of thread and fabric, but for many Americans, it is more than the sum of those parts.

Starting at 5 p.m. on June 14, V.F.W. Post 3323 and the post Ladies Auxiliary, the Westland Civitan Club, and the City of Westland will host a Flag Day ceremony at the flagpole between Westland City Hall and the Bailey Recreation Center.

According to Marlene Doran, who helped originate the event in Westland about 20 years ago and who continues to help organize it as a member of both the post auxiliary and the Civitans,

the event grew from a desire to help people gain awareness of Flag Day and what the day stands for.

"Our flag has flown in good times and in wartime," she said. "Patriotism has declined towards what we actually have in America—the freedoms we enjoy. We felt that there needed to be more recognition of the day to make people aware that Flag Day exists—and that it was important."

The family-friendly event, which is expected to take about half an hour, will include the pledge of allegiance, brief readings, and a chance to sing patriot-

ic songs. Bennie Clemente, a trumpet player from Stevenson Middle School, will perform the national anthem.

"It's not a long service, but it is a powerful service," Doran said. "We're extremely proud to be able to do it. The community seems to enjoy it. Each year, it gets a little bit bigger."

Doran said that the ceremony generally attracts a fairly diverse group of participants ranging from interested residents and scout troops to members of several area veterans organizations and their families.

Flag

FROM PAGE 4

Sometimes we forget, though, the impact of the one symbol that—although it has changed through the years—has flown proudly overhead as history has unfolded around it.

It's the ultimate symbol of who we are and where we came from. It's worth taking a little bit of time out of your day and reflecting on what it means to the nation.

The ceremony itself is worth a visit, too. It can provide a brief respite from the worries of the day and a reminder, despite our individual difficulties or challenges, we still live in the greatest nation on Earth.

Westland City Hall is on Ford Road, between Newburgh and Wayne. (See related story, above.)

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X-MEN: THE LAST STAND (PG-13) 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35 FRI/SAT LS 11:50
DA VINCI CODE (PG-13) 12:25, 3:20, 6:15, 9:10
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Belleville seniors prepare for Special Olympics

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Charles Hutchison of Van Buren Township is not sure if he's entering the shuffleboard competition in the Western Wayne County Senior Olympics this year. The outcome of the game during the Senior Health and Fitness Day will be the determining factor.

"I haven't shot in over a year, but it shouldn't be a problem," he said. "It's good exercise, good people and anything I can do is better than nothing."

Hutchinson was one of many

seniors who took part in the shuffleboard tournament at the September Days Senior Center last week. The event was not only to promote the township shuffleboard, but also fitness, health and the upcoming Senior Olympics, according to Linda Combs, director of the center.

"The perception of senior centers has always been it's a bunch of old people sitting around doing nothing, but that's not us at all," she said. "More and more of our seniors are attracted to the center because of our fitness equipment and the interest to exercise and

"The perception of senior centers has always been it's a bunch of old people sitting around doing nothing, but that's not us at all"
Linda Combs

stay fit."

The health and fitness day included a PACE—people with arthritis can exercise—seminar,

the shuffleboard tournament and the kick-off to the 2006 Senior Olympics. Van Buren Township will once again host the shuffleboard competition.

Flo Britt, who also took part in the fitness day, said she has already signed up to participate in the shuffleboard and bowling competitions during the Senior Olympics.

"This is my first time playing shuffleboard because I got recruited. I don't have a technique, but I do like to win all the time," she said. "I try to exercise a lot, at least three times a week. It's very important to my husband and I."

Another husband and wife duo, Bernie and Cinda McManus, said they, too, were first time players of the game.

"I'm not very coordinated, but I

like the idea of socializing and talking with people. Also, if I beat my husband at the game, I'll sign up for the Senior Olympics for sure," said Cinda McManus.

"I did the golf tournament last year in the Olympics and it was so much fun I plan to take part in it again this year. Maybe, even shuffleboard, too," said Bernie McManus.

Combs said the senior center plans to start other new fitness and health programs like a shuffleboard league and a walking program if she sees that the interest is there.

Registration for the Senior Olympics, which will take place Aug. 21-25 in Northville, has started. The deadline to register is July 31. For more information, call (734) 699-8918.

'Summer Dreams' at Girlstown

Girlstown Foundation in Belleville was once again selected to participate in the Skillman Foundation "Summer Dreams" program, which is a grassroots community effort to fund activities throughout the summer for area children.

The Skillman Foundation will match all money generated by Girlstown. The goal this year is to raise \$5,257 for the activities in the program called 'Girls Just Want to Have Fun', according to Elaine Carter, director of funds development for Girlstown.

The program covers 10 weeks

of activities starting this month. Instructors for the program are from Marygrove College, the Ann Arbor Art Center, the Tennis Association of Southeastern Michigan, Golfademics, the Western Campus of Wayne County Community College, Romulus High School and the Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department.

Last year with the help of supporters, Girlstown generated \$5,000, Carter said.

For more information or to donate, contact Carter at (734) 697-7242 ext. 233.



The shuffleboard competition last week, which was part of the health and fitness day, helped seniors get ready for the 2006 Western Wayne County Senior Olympics in August.

Salvation Army hosts summer camps

The Plymouth Salvation Army will host a summer day camp program this year for children in the Belleville area.

The camp will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. from June 19-23 and June 26-30 at the Faith United Methodist Church, located at 6020 Denton Road in Belleville.

The summer camp is geared toward

children ages 6-12 years old and will include games, crafts, fellowship and fun. The cost is \$50 and scholarships are available.

To register or for more information, contact Kelly Boelter at (734) 453-5464. The Plymouth Salvation Army is located at 9451 S. Main St. in Plymouth.

THE CITY OF ROMULUS

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The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above item/s and/or service/s.

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Publish: June 8, 2006

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THE SCENE



the suffers from break-up an identity crisis

Ending any type of relationship—personal or otherwise—always involves a lot of areas that need to be resolved before there's a sense of closure.

Whether it's moving to a new house, leaving a job or ending a relationship, the one thing always common with that type of major life change is the matter of personal effects. That's what's at the core of *The Break-Up*: who gets the stuff?

In the case of Gary (Vince Vaughn) and Brooke (Jennifer Aniston) it's not a sweatshirt or

bracelet they're fighting over.

They share a sweet condo in Chicago and neither one of them wants to move out. Convinced the other will break first and exit the condo, the couple's break-up brings out the worst in them as their best friends Johnny (Jon Favreau) and Maddie (Joey Lauren Adams) provide alternating advice as they engage in a melee to try and force their former life partner into abandoning the home they've shared. It's a fairly entertaining film that can't really decide if it's a drama or a

comedy.

The film straddles an invisible line between being an all out comedy and a tense drama too often. There is definitely a story to be told about a couple trying to break up while not really wanting to end the relationship at all. There's also a really funny romantic comedy that wants to come out.

It's just that the awkward rushed moments of both genres are pushed together. And what's left is a film that becomes mediocre because there's no

clear idea of what the movie is trying to be.

It's shot well, as the city of Chicago is used effectively and city landmarks are used nicely. Getting the setting right is a good thing, of course, but the film struggles because the relationship between Brooke and Gary isn't established enough early in the movie. They meet, fall in love, and break up in less than the span of 10 minutes.

That's not nearly enough time to make us care to see them get back together or stay apart, and after the usual romantic comedy shenanigans to get them together, there's nothing more than a series of photographs in an opening montage to establish the fact that they are dating.

While the relationship is

believable because Aniston and Vaughn are both terrific in their roles, the breakup itself doesn't have any significance to begin with because there's nothing to establish it as something to care about.

Vaughn and Aniston have plenty of chemistry on screen. It's believable that they would be a couple, and it's this chemistry that keeps the film moving and still somewhat enjoyable. Vaughn is unbelievably funny in some slow moments, going off on tangents and saying some hilarious stuff, while Aniston has more of a dramatic role than a comedic one. Going for more comedy and less drama, or vice versa, would have helped both characters find the right fit for this film.

Reviewed By
Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer



Summertime fun

Area offers wide range of free concerts, entertainment

With the first day of summer on the horizon, western Wayne County residents are gearing up for what promises to be an exciting time in terms of entertainment.

Live bands, shows for children, arts and crafts, movies and other activities will take place throughout the community, and most can be enjoyed for free or at a nominal cost.

Summer events scheduled in the area include:

Belleville

Strawberry Festival

About 1 million people are expected to file into the small enclave of Belleville for the National Strawberry Festival, from June 16-18. Live music, entertainment, games and other events will be scheduled through the weekend at various locations within the city. For a specific listing of events, visit the festival online at www.nationalstrawberryfest.com. For more information about the festival, call executive director Mary Strope at (734) 697-3137.

Northville

Sun Messengers Concert

The Sun Messenger's Concert is a collection of local and regional rhythm and blues bands. A bandstand will be in place at the Waterford Bend Park in Northville, and food vendors will

be on-site. Waterford bend Park is located on Northville Road, north of Six Mile Road. The event will begin at 7 p.m. on June 21. This event is sponsored by Wayne County Parks. There is no charge to attend. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Movie in the Park: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (PG)

Parents and children are invited to enjoy the acerbic wit of the film version of Roald Felder's classic story starring Johnny Depp as Charlie. The movie will be shown at dusk on June 23 at the Waterford Bend Park. Waterford bend Park is located on Northville Road, north of Six Mile Road. This event is sponsored by Wayne County Parks. Attendance is free. There is no charge to attend. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Candy Band concert

The Candy Band, a children's rock 'n' roll ensemble, will perform at 7 p.m. on Aug. 8. The show is appropriate for younger children.

The concert will take place at the Waterford Bend Park on Northville Road just north of Six Mile Road in Northville Township. The event is free. For more information, call (734) 261-1990.

Romulus

Church carnival

The Fellowship of Churches Carnival will take place once again on June 16, 17 and 18 at on the grounds of the church at 35565 Beverly Road, near Wayne Road. Wristbands that allow one person to ride all day can be purchased in advance for \$12. Wristbands purchased at the carnival, will cost \$15 per person. Hours are: 1-11 p.m. Friday, 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Saturday, and 2-10:30 p.m. Sunday. For more information about this event call Anthony Washington at (734) 664-6371.

Westland

Tommy James Orchestra

The Tommy James Orchestra will belt out classics from the golden age of the big band era at 6 p.m. on June 11 at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The show is free. The Westland Public Library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Waco Country Band with Dean Stacy

Country music will be king when the Waco Country Band hits the stage at 6 p.m. on June 25. The concert will take place at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The library is located at 6123 Central

City Pkwy. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Chautauqua Express with Guy Louis

The Chautauqua Express, featuring musician Guy Louis, will play a few sets at 6 p.m. on July 9 at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Pam and Scott concert

Local easy listening performers Pam and Scott will take the stage at 6 p.m. on July 16 at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The library is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Birmingham Straw Hat Band

The Birmingham Straw Hat Band will have music lovers marching to the Dixieland beat at a show scheduled for 6 p.m. on July 23. The show will take place at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion at 6123 Central City Pkwy. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Novi Concert Band

Novi Concert Band will play a variety of traditional classical music and contemporary com-

positions at 6 p.m. on July 30 at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The pavilion is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Tyrone Hamilton

R&B musician Tyrone Hamilton will play a host of contemporary hits at 6 p.m. on Aug. 6 at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The pavilion is located at 6123 Central City Parkway. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Johnny Danger Band

The rockabilly beat will be alive and kicking at 6 p.m. on Aug. 13 when the Johnny Danger Band takes the stage at the Westland Library Performance Pavilion. The pavilion is located at 6123 Central City Pkwy. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

Trilogy II

Music that represents Detroit's musical roots will fill the Westland Library Performance Pavilion at 6 p.m. on Aug. 20 when Trilogy II plays an eclectic blend of Motown tunes and other oldies. The pavilion is located at 6123 Central City Pkwy. For more information, call (734) 722-7620.

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How sweet it is...

National Strawberry Festival will include special food, fun

Andrea King
Staff Writer

The countdown has begun for a 'berry' special time of year when strawberries and residents from throughout the area invade Belleville.

The 30th annual Belleville National Strawberry Festival will take place June 16-18, during Father's Day weekend. This year the festival will include live entertainment, a car show, a pageant, carnival rides, food, original crafts, a parade, helicopter rides, the fireman waterball competition and other daily events.

The city-wide festival is located in seven different areas, including: Main Street, Trinity Episcopal Church, Belleville

Presbyterian Church, St. Anthony's Church, Victory Park, Belleville High School and South Middle School. It will be open from noon to 11 p.m. on Friday, June 16, from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on Saturday, June 17 and from noon to 7 p.m. on Sunday, June 18.

In 1976, the first strawberry festival took place at St. Anthony's Church. It has since grown into a bigger and more bountiful event, according to Glenn Rowe, grand marshal of the festival parade.

"I've grown strawberries here in Belleville since 1969," said Rowe, owner of the last farm in the area to grow berries. "I also helped to get the event going when it first started out so it's an honor to lead the parade this year."

According to Festival Director Mary Strope, the event will include a variety of daily activities for everyone to enjoy including: the

The schedule will also include area singers and groups performing in the W4 Country Strawberry Jam on Saturday. Local singers include: Peggy Brent, Amanda Meredith, Vicki Talbott, Tracy Maree and Robyn Lee, Jade Lester, Cole Meridith and Sarah Lenore. Area groups, April Gibson and Wildfire, Boots in Motion, Heavensakes, Fiddlers Re-Strung and Company of Strangers, will also fill the stage.

Other performers include: Then Five, Dan Meridith, Chris Solano, Taylor and Madison Towers, Madalyn Tennace, Tony Thompson, Cody Rhodes, Homefolks band, Funkee Station and Duane Malinowski. Performers, Shannon Salisbury, Kaylin Brown, Tabetha James, T.L.T., Sway, Cohort, Alycia Ferrante, Shaina Knorp, Primetime Kitchen Band, Cover Up, Bev's By and Insurrection, will add to the live entertainment.

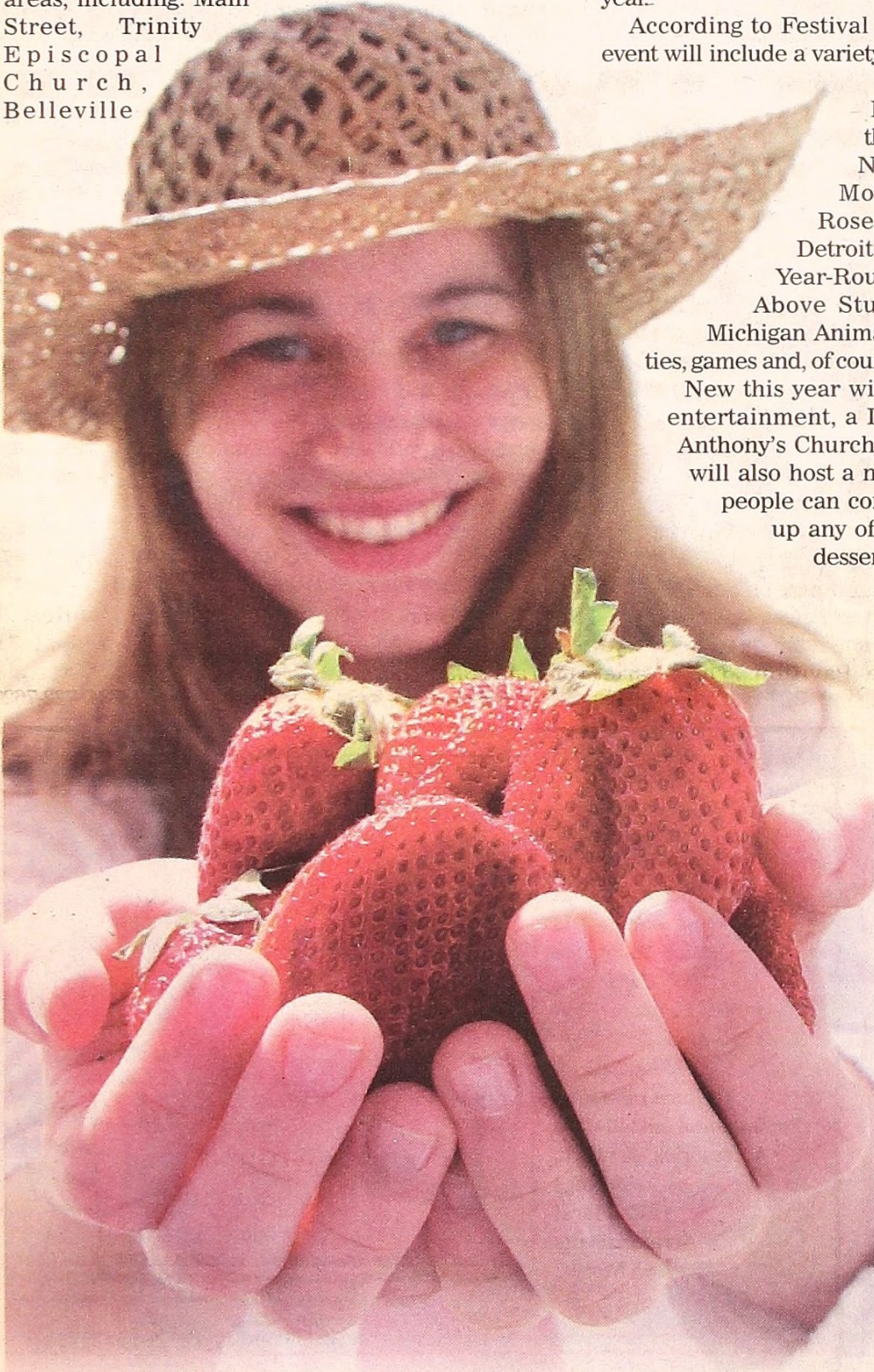
On Friday, visitors can watch the annual Strawberry Prince and Princess contest at noon at South Middle School, along with the annual Strawberry Queen pageant at 7:30 p.m. at Belleville High School. The Strawberry Teen Princess pageant will take place at 7 p.m. on Thursday.

The Rotary Club annual pancake breakfast, a festival tradition, will take place from 8-11 a.m. on Saturday at the Belleville High School cafeteria. The parade will then begin at 11 a.m. and will include numerous entries of floats, musical entertainment, motorcades, marching bands, clowns and acrobats that will entertain the crowd for about two hours, said Strope.

The festival will end the main events with the fifth annual Cinnamon's Father's Day Car Show and Swap from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday at Victory Park and, new this year, the Strawberry Idol contest will take place all day Sunday at the main stage.

"We're hoping for good weather and lots of strawberries," said Strope.

The strawberry festival offers free admission, plenty of parking and a free shuttle bus service. For more information, call the festival hotline at (734) 697-3137.



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Rouge Cleanup was great

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I think it's important to help out the snakes and the turtles. It's important to help out nature. And I loooove the donuts....



Henry Spielman—along with dozens of other volunteers—helped clean up Dynamite Park in Wayne by reestablishing walking paths, cleaning up debris and pulling out invasive plant species during the Rouge Clean-up Day last Saturday.

‘Young authors’ visit college

Aspiring writers from the Van Buren Public School District showcased their skills recently during the 10th annual Young Author's Program.

The winning writers of the program displayed their work during a conference hosted at the Wayne County Community College District Western Campus in Belleville.

About 150 students in kindergarten through the eighth grade began work for the program last fall. They wrote stories throughout the school year so they could submit their books to win a spot at the workshop, according to Aleisha Pitt, a Title One teacher at Savage Elementary School.

“This encourages kids to write, as well as gives them a chance to talk and listen to real authors, storytellers and illustrators. Maybe someday it could be their career, too,” she said. “We all have a story to share and we are all writers.”

In spring, people of the community judge the student books. The top three winners in each grade level are chosen to attend the young author's workshop. Students get the chance to see the process from start to finish, share their books, meet professionals and visit a college campus, Pitt said.

“This builds quite an excitement in the kids. You can just hear it in them,” she said. “At Savage, we even let the students bring their books into our library so other students are able to check them out.”

This year, the industry professionals included author Marybeth Dillon-Butler, storyteller Kelly Skinner from the Fred C. Fischer Library and illustrator Ray Gross, who is also the director of instruction for the school district.

Dillon-Butler is a freelance journalist who previously worked as a newspaper editor. She shared her book *Myrtle the Hurdler* and *Her Pink and Purple, Polka-Dotted Girdle* with the students, while Skinner told some of her favorite children's stories. Gross shared his love of art with the young writers before the students read their stories to their peers.

Joel Kohler, principal at Haggerty Elementary School, said he hopes to see this program continue for many years to come.

“We've been doing this for a number of years and it turns out wonderful. It's one of the highlights of the year because it sparks the imagination to write in every kid,” he said. “It's exciting for the students, but everyone else, too.”



Author Marybeth Dillon-Butler shared her book *Myrtle the Hurdler* and *Her Pink and Purple, Polka-Dotted Girdle* with students during the young authors program by dressing the part.

Museum begins summer hours

The Belleville Area Museum will now be open from noon to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The summer hours will be in effect through Labor Day.

The museum and the Belleville Area Historical Society are also providing an opportunity to have family names engraved into bricks in the sidewalks surrounding the museum.

A brick can be engraved to mark the date of a significant event such as graduation, a wedding or a birth of a baby. The cost is \$50. The engraving must fit within the spaces provided: two lines at 12 spaces each. Orders for 2006 will be accepted through June 30. Upon request, the historical society will send a gift certificate of purchase to the person being honored.

Over the past few summers, the Belleville Area Historical Society has added 124 bricks to the museum sidewalks commemorating family names, events and milestones. Funds raised from this endeavor are used to support the projects and programs of the museum.

To preserve a family name in Belleville history or for more information, call (734) 697-1944. The museum is located at 405 Main St. in Belleville.



Kid's Corner
By Henry Spielman

Summer classes set

The Van Buren Public School District will host a summer school program through the alternative education department.

The mission of the program is to provide challenging and creative lessons that will assist the students in learning the skills needed to be successful. Critical thinking, problem solving and communication skills will be emphasized, according to school officials.

Those interested can register at the Alternative Education Administrative Office Building-C, located at 416 Sumpter Road in Belleville. It will take place now through June 20 for students grades 9-12. Students must be on time and present each day. Students who exceed three absences will not receive credit and will not receive a refund.



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SPORTS

Canton tops Northville to capture district crown

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

When the Canton and Northville softball teams met last Saturday in Novi, there was a lot on the line.

The winner would win the take the season series, two games to one, and take a district title in the process.

The squads split two meetings in the regular season, with each team winning on the other's turf. The Chiefs took the first contest, 1-0, while the Lady Mustangs won the rematch, 2-1.

The rubber match would not be as close, though. Canton downed Northville, 9-2, to take the district crown.

In the Chiefs' regular season win, their lone run was unearned.

The division title game started out the same way, as Canton plated three unearned runs in the first inning. Only one of the Chief's nine runs was earned.

"Errors led to most of their runs," Northville coach Teryn Fox said. "We just didn't play well at all."

The two teams traded runs in the second and third inning, but Canton had a 4-1 advantage. The Mustangs plated their second run in the fourth to cut the Chief's lead in half at 4-2, but Canton blew the game open with five runs in the fifth inning, putting the game out of reach.

Fox said her team learned some things in defeat. She said her underclassmen will remember that they need to play their best at the state tournament level.

She also set some high goals for next season.

"We still want to win our division, our conference, our district and any tournament we could win is a bonus," Fox said. "We also want to work hard as a team and have fun."

Fox also said the Chiefs will be a tough out the rest of the way.

"If Canton's offense can score more than a couple of runs, they'll be tough," she said. "Their pitching and defense doesn't allow too many runs."

Canton next faces Monroe Saturday in Saline in regional play. The winner of that contest will face the winner of the Belleville/Southgate Anderson match-up.

Check next week's edition for a full recap.



Sarah Rounsifer tracks a foul popup at the district championship game Saturday.

Plymouth-Canton lacrosse ousted from playoffs

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

For the first time in the team's history, the Plymouth-Canton lacrosse team failed to win a first-round playoff game.

The Warriors dropped a hard-fought game to Northville, 9-8, on May 30.

The Mustangs (7-7) put Plymouth-Canton (13-5) in a 5-2 hole in the first quarter. Northville's first two goals came 29 seconds apart early in the first stanza. Ryan Gubert and Mitch French tallied goals to knot the game at two before the Mustangs reeled off three more goals to extend their lead to three.

French and Gubert led a second quarter rally with back-to-back goals early in the period to cut Northville's lead to 5-4. The two teams traded goals in the second, with French's third goal of the game bringing the Warriors to within one goal at 6-5. The Mustangs took a 7-5 lead into the locker room when Northville scored with 53 seconds to play in the first half.

The Mustangs again took a three-goal lead, 8-5, in the third quarter before Jared Ruark put the ball in the net for Plymouth-Canton to cut into Northville's lead.

The rally was seemingly complete when Ruark and Alex Caryl scored for the Warriors, tying the game at eight. The Mustangs scored the winning goal with 2:33 left in the game, ending Plymouth-Canton's season.

"The loss stings quite a bit," Warriors Coach Mike Costello said. "It's the first season in our history that we didn't win a playoff game, but that shouldn't take away from what this team accomplished."

Northville out shot Plymouth-Canton, 30-25. The Warriors had a slight in face-offs, 11-10, and Plymouth-Canton played a fairly clean game with just three penalties to the Mustangs eight.

Costello praised his seniors—Chris Sorensen, French, Johnny Groat and John Sorvino.

"I was proud of our seniors who stepped up and tried to carry the squad," Costello said. "I feel bad for (the seniors). It was tough for the season to end like this."

Ignition to host soccer camps

Detroit's newest professional soccer team, the Detroit Ignition, will host a number of soccer camps this summer.

The team, which plays at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth, is taking over the popular "Goose's All-Star Soccer Camps," which were started four years ago by former professional goalkeeper of 12 years, Bryan "Goose" Finnerty.

Finnerty and former teammate and camp director, Droo Callahan,

will still operate the camps.

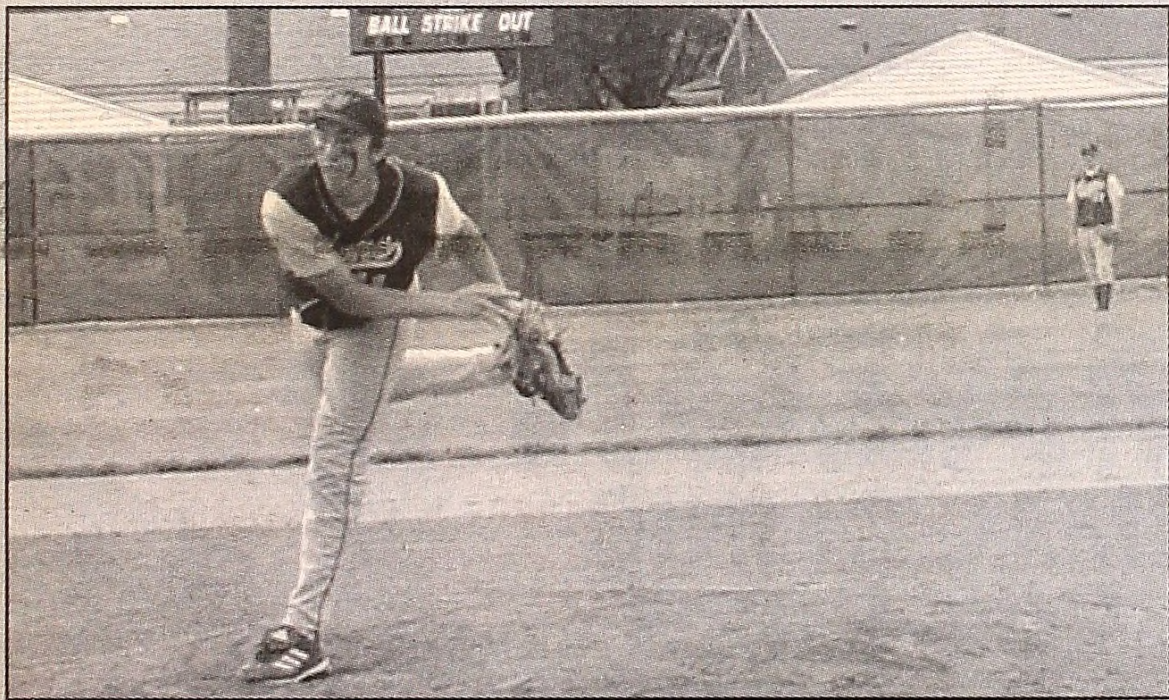
The locations of the local camps are as follows:

June 26-30 - Independence Park in Canton

July 17-21 - Independence Park in Canton

Aug. 7-11 - Plymouth Lake Soccer Park in Plymouth.

Each camp will run from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Cost of the camp is \$139. The fee includes a free ball and T-shirt. To register, visit www.Goose22.com.



Andrew Kaleto kept his Wayne Memorial Zebras in every game he pitched this year.

Wayne standout heads to next level

Matt Whalen
Staff Writer

Andrew Kaleto had a higher batting average than a grade point average as a freshman on the Wayne Memorial baseball team.

Now a senior and three-year varsity letterman, he has worked hard on his academics. That work ethic—along with his skills on the baseball field—has earned him a scholarship to play baseball at Siena Heights University next year.

"I realize that I can't rely on my arm to carry me down the stretch," Kaleto said of his 2.8 career GPA. "You never know what might happen, so it's important for me to have an education to fall back on."

Kaleto said he loves the game of baseball and has always worked hard at it, too. It didn't take long for new base-

ball coach Frank Garcia to recognize his leadership potential.

"Andrew puts the team before himself," Garcia said. "He works hard, but also knows how to have fun and keep the other players on the team loose."

Kaleto said he feels fortunate to receive a baseball scholarship because there are plenty of baseball players who don't get the chance to continue playing at the next level. His parents definitely appreciate what the scholarship means and the financial relief that the scholarship provides.

"It takes the pressure off of us to pay for school," said his mother, Katherine Kaleto. "You can't get a decent job today without a college education."

The college decision was an easy one for Andrew. There was interest from a few other

schools like Adrian and Notre Dame College, but Siena Heights University expressed the most interest and made him feel wanted, he said. They were the only school that brought him in to meet the team. So, when they offered him a scholarship he said he couldn't turn it down. He plans to study secondary education because he wants to teach children some of what he has learned during his high school baseball career.

"I want to teach kids life values beyond baseball," Kaleto said.

On the baseball field, Kaleto split time at first base and pitcher for Wayne Memorial High School. A week ago, he was hitting .368 with nine RBIs. On the mound, Kaleto has struck out 36 batters and has a

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SPORTS

Standout

FROM PAGE 11

3.56 ERA, according to Garcia.

"Siena Heights is getting a heck of a hitter," Garcia said. "He was an All-Division first baseman last year and has kept his team in all of the games he has pitched so far this season."

Kaleto said the All-Division honor last year has made him work harder this year. He is hoping to be voted All-Conference or even All-Region to conclude his senior year.

Kaleto will be a big loss for Wayne Memorial High School next year because he is such a solid all around player, according to Garcia. The team will especially miss his hitting, which is something that Siena Heights University sorely needs next season.

Siena Heights is batting .236 as a team this season, according to John Kolasinski, Siena Heights' baseball coach.

"We like his versatility at first and on the mound, but the way Andrew swings the bat is what is most important for us," Kolasinski said.



Andrew Kaleto signed his letter of intent to play baseball at Siena Heights University next year on a scholarship.

Kaleto will be given the opportunity to make an impact at Siena Heights next year. Whether he plays first base or logs some innings on the mound, he will continue to work hard in the classroom and on the field. Maybe he will get the chance to fulfill his ultimate dream of being a professional baseball player. If not, he will always have his education.

Tigers end baseball season with a loss

Matt Whalen
Staff Writer

Belleville's baseball season ended with a 5-1 loss to Huron in the district playoffs on Saturday.

Junior Josh Sparkman threw the first four innings for Belleville and allowed four runs while striking out two Huron batters. Senior Kevin Putnam also pitched in the game for the Tigers, recording three strikeouts.

Unfortunately, Putnam couldn't hold the Huron offense in check as they got to him for another run.

All of the action for Belleville occurred in the seventh inning.

The first two Tiger batters reached base on walks. Then senior second baseman Josh Lemons smacked a single in the seventh inning for the Tigers' only hit of the game. Belleville scored their only run of the game on a Huron throwing error.

The loss was a tough way for the Tigers' season to end, but they are looking forward to having a productive season next year with eight players returning, according to Coach Chris Dessellier.

"Our kids played hard," he said. "Fortunately, we have the nucleus of our team coming back and hopefully, a few strong freshmen coming in."

Belleville heads to regional playoffs on Saturday

Matt Whalen
Staff Writer

The Belleville Lady Tigers beat Ann Arbor Pioneer 3-1 in the District Softball Playoffs on Saturday.

In the second inning, senior Taylor Janice walked and advanced to second base on a wild pitch. Freshman Cassandra Porzondek drove her in when she smacked a triple to drive in

Belleville's first run.

The Tigers continued their aggressive play in the third inning. With two outs, senior Tiffany Jablonski hit a single and followed it up by swiping second base to advance into scoring position. Junior Jasmine Haralson hit a frozen rope for a double, which scored Jablonski. Taylor Janice capped off the scoring for Belleville when she drove in Haralson with a single.

Ann Arbor Pioneer scored their only run in the fourth inning as a result of two singles and a wild pitch. They threatened to score again in the fifth inning, reaching base on back-to-back walks. The next batter for Ann Arbor Pioneer popped out to junior center fielder Brandi Craig but, realizing that this could be their best chance of the game to score, Ann Arbor Pioneer sent one of the runners home. Brandi

Craig ended those hopes though, when she fired a perfect throw home to Vanessa Rivas for the out.

"Brandi's throw was the play of the game," Belleville Coach Peg Carlson said. "We played strong defensively and this was a good team win."

Samantha Cole struck out eight Pioneer hitters. She was the winning pitcher for the Lady Tigers. Belleville now moves on to the Regional Finals, where they will

play Southgate at noon on Saturday.

Belleville 9 Lincoln 0

Belleville blanked Lincoln 9-0 last week to advance in the District Softball Playoffs. Haralson led the way offensively for the Tigers, driving in two runs, including a home run to left field. Janice also had a strong game for Belleville, going 2-for-4 with an RBI. Samantha Cole was the winning pitcher in the shutout.

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SPORTS

Coach's corner

First year coach reflects on successful softball season

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

Teryn Fox's Northville Lady Mustangs fell one game short of capturing a district crown. In her first year in the dugout, Fox's squad still had a solid season and she said her team has a bright future ahead. Fox, 25, talks about her squad, and herself, in this edition of the Coaches Corner:

First, can you give us a little bit of your background?

I first started playing softball when I was seven, but I spent many days throwing, catching, and hitting in my backyard with my parents before that age. I played four years on varsity at Livonia Stevenson High School (shortstop/catcher) and then was a four-year starter at Kalamazoo College (shortstop). I have coached at the Western Michigan University Nike softball camp, clinics at Athlete's Corner in Kalamazoo, the Stevenson High School freshman summer team, three years as varsity assistant coach at Northville High School, I gave hitting lessons for three years in Northville, and I now have one year under my belt as the head coach at Northville.

I have a bachelor's degree in Business and Economics with a

minor in Psychology from Kalamazoo College ('02). I have a secondary teaching certification and am finishing up my second year teaching economics, exploring psychology, and AP psychology at Northville High School. My dad is my one of my assistant coaches, which is great because he, along with my mom, taught me the game of softball. I also have a younger sister, Cheryl, 23.

When did you decide you wanted to coach and why?

I have always felt that I have a good understanding of the game of softball and was always a leader on the teams I played on. I enjoyed learning, improving, and teaching others. I knew that I wanted to teach and coaching felt like a great fit. I first knew I would want to coach when I was in high school. After my freshman year of college, I came home for the summer and coached my alma mater's freshman summer team. Many more camps/clinics followed during college. While I was student teaching at Northville, I asked to help out the varsity softball team and that's what helped me get my foot in the door.

How has your first year of coaching gone?

My first year as head varsity coach has gone great. It was so nice

to have already been a part of the program, so I knew most of the players and how things needed to be run. It was a very successful year. We finished the season 25-7. The parents, players, administrators and my assistant coaches have been so supportive.

What were your expectations for the squad going into this season?

We expected to be a good team and to compete for the division, conference, and district titles. We did have a strong showing, but fell short. The girls were confident in their abilities and the coaches knew this team would do well.

Your team is great, has that made your first year easier?

Of course. It was a veteran team and the girls all played together for a long time, which made my job easier. It's always nice to win and this team found ways to do that.

What have been some ups and downs you've had to go through this year?

There mostly have been ups. We started out 8-0, beat some good teams early on, and Jenna Dumbleton was able to pitch more than we had expected. The girls showed that they were going to be more offensive this year and at times, the bats cooled down and that's when we had our few losses,



Teryn Fox

but they always found a way to bounce back. Our highlights of the season include beating Stevenson, Churchill, and Canton during conference play—it had been at least four years since NHS beat any of those teams in conference play. We won our division at the Canton Classic, but did not get to play in the championship game due to weather. We actually finished 14-3 in the conference, which was a tie for best record with Plymouth and Canton. The downs only include not winning our division—because of one off day that led to a loss—and not playing our best in the district championship.

As far as this season has gone, would you do anything different if

you could?
I wouldn't change a thing. The girls were well prepared and played their hearts out in each game. There's always going to be off-days when we're not playing our best, but there weren't many of those. We had a lot of fun and a lot of success.

Are you losing a lot of players to graduation? How will those losses affect the team?

We are losing six seniors: Christy Badeen, Emily Doren, Bridget Hughes, Kelly Lockman, Lisa Mueller, and Laura Zima. This was a very strong group and they will be missed. New leadership will have to step up and lead the team next year. We do have a lot of returning players, including the entire pitching staff, and there is some new talent that will have to step up for us to continue to be successful. These seniors were a huge part in building the Northville softball program up to what it is today and they are proud of that and we plan to continue heading in the right direction.

What's the future hold for Northville softball?

The future holds a lot of promise. There are a lot of talented players in this program that will get their chance to shine next year. We have some great underclassmen who will carry the torch.

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34233 Michigan Ave.
Children's clothing, furniture, trailers, const. equip.
Sat. 6/10
9am-5pm

Place your Garage or Yard Sale ad here and get more people to your sale.
It's easy to do!
Call 734-467-1900 TODAY!!
for next week's sale

59. Auctions

Notice of Public Sale:
On Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 12:30 PM, U-Store-It #401 28266 Ecorse Rd. Romulus, MI 48174 with reserve, will sell by the unit to the highest bidder, by CASH, all rights, title and interest to the following property:

Elizabeth Varner, A35: furniture, bags, boxes, misc.; Robert Louis Vasher, D21: golf clubs, speakers, boxes, misc.; Shawn Wallace, D67: bags, boxes, misc.

61. Misc. Items

8 Pc. Cherry Sleigh Bed Bedroom Suite. All NEW in boxes with warranty. Values \$2,100. Sacrifice \$795. Delivery available. 248-449-5699

FULL Size Orthopedic 2 Piece Mattress Set. All "NEW" in plastic with manufacturer warranty. \$120.00 (734) 326-2744

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87. Rooms For Rent

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88. Duplexes For Rent

Let the JOURNAL help you rent your room, apt., condo or house Call 734-467-1900 and ask for Eric **WESTLAND-NORWAYNE** Call for list of available 2 & 3 BR duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 vouchers welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management. Norplex Associates 734-722-6444 EHO

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89. Apartments For Rent

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96. Houses For Rent

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WAYNE
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All Cities Available

RENTAL PROFESSIONALS
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Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad. **WESTLAND**

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WESTLAND
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Several Homes Available

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Very clean 2 bedroom ranch, Finished basement, All appliances, C/A, Pets negotiable \$750/month plus \$800 sec. dep. Section 8 ok Call 734-397-8187

106. Houses For Sale



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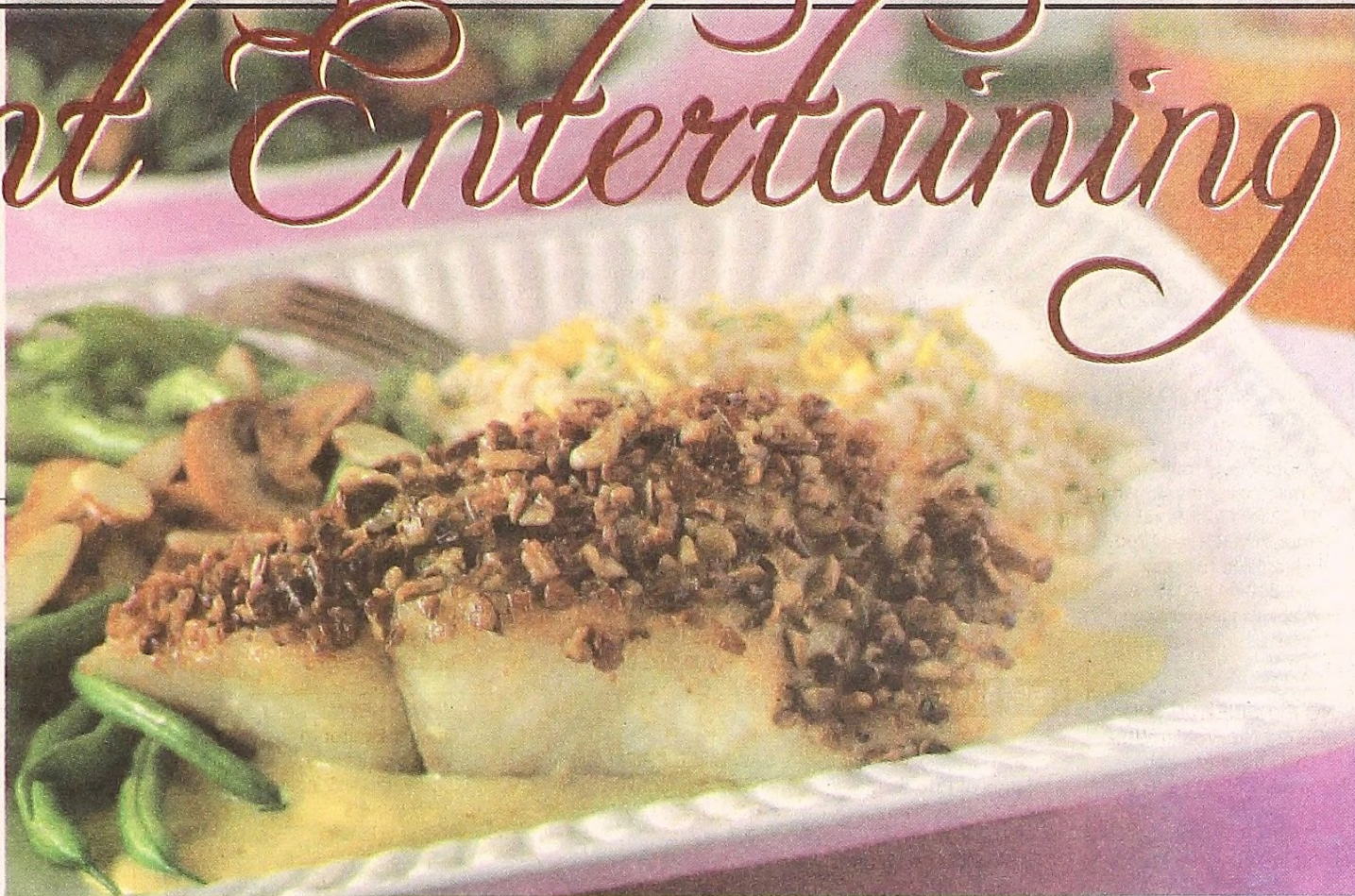
Elegant Entertaining

FAMILY FEATURES

MADE EASY

Whether you're celebrating birthdays, hosting a friend's bridal or baby shower, honoring the graduate, or simply gathering the family for a sunny Sunday brunch, occasions abound in summer for easy and elegant entertaining at home. Denise Vivaldo, a celebrity caterer who has hosted more than 10,000 parties, cites that the most important element to successful entertaining is to ensure that as much prep work as possible is done in advance. "Professionals can cook for large groups quickly because they have sous chefs doing the prep work. When entertaining at home, my meal magician is this gadget called the Magic Bullet — it chops, dices, purees, whips and grates my ingredients so I can prepare meals quickly while limiting kitchen clutter."

Vivaldo's Springtime Party Menu, adapted from her latest book "Do It For Less! Parties" offers up four mouth-watering dishes that take advantage of the season's bounty of fresh ingredients and are appropriate for any midday party. These recipes serve 12, but can easily be cut down or multiplied based on party size.



Pecan-Crusted Halibut Fillets

- 12 (4-ounce) halibut fillets, skinned
- 1 3/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon black pepper
- 3 large eggs
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 7 ounces pecans
- 1 3/4 cups plain breadcrumbs
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Combine flour, salt and pepper in mixing bowl.
3. In another bowl, whisk eggs and mustard.
4. Using the Magic Bullet, finely chop pecans in small bullet cup.
5. In third bowl, combine chopped pecans and breadcrumbs.
6. Set the 3 bowls in a row, with baking pan at end for placing fillets. First dredge each fillet in flour, shaking excess back into bowl. Then dip fillet in egg mixture to coat, and place in pecan mixture. Press lightly to coat both sides of fillet with nuts and place fillet on baking sheet. Repeat with remaining fillets. (Fillets can be refrigerated up to 2 hours before sautéing.)
7. Melt 2 tablespoons butter in large sauté pan over medium heat. Add as many fillets as will comfortably fit in pan. Cook about 3 minutes per side, or until light brown. (Fillets can be drained on paper towels and refrigerated up to 6 hours before baking.)
8. Arrange sautéed fillets on baking sheets and bake 10 to 15 minutes, or until cooked through. Serve with Dijon Cream Sauce.

Helpful Hint: To make chopping nuts easier, add a little sugar to bullet cup. Pulse to keep from grinding nuts too finely.

Dijon Cream Sauce

- 1 1/3 cups heavy whipping cream
- 3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- Salt and black pepper to taste

1. Combine cream and mustard in bullet cup and process until combined.
2. Pour mixture into large saucepan; heat on low until warm.
3. Season sauce with salt and pepper to taste and ladle over fillets.

Baby Greens With Champagne Vinaigrette

- 2 1/4 ounces Champagne vinegar
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon salt, plus more to taste
- 1 1/8 cups extra-virgin olive oil
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 pound mixed baby greens salad

1. Combine vinegar, mustard, mayonnaise, salt and olive oil in tall bullet cup. Process until emulsified. (Dressing can be made 1 day in advance and stored in refrigerator.)
2. Just before serving, place some baby greens in individual salad bowl and drizzle with vinaigrette.
3. Using tongs or hands (wear disposable plastic gloves), toss salad until well coated. Add more dressing to taste, being careful not to overdress leaves.
4. Repeat with remaining baby greens and vinaigrette.

Timesaving Tips in the Kitchen

Entertaining can be relaxing and rewarding, especially if you streamline the cooking process, which can allow you time to socialize with guests. The Magic Bullet — a sleek, compact, all-in-one food-processing machine — can help eliminate time-intensive prep work. It is also helpful in preparing a multitude of items, including:

- Grating cheese
- Grinding coffee beans, spices and herbs
- Dicing vegetables for soups
- Pureeing beans or veggies for salsa, dips, soups and sauces
- Whipping cream for delectable desserts or to top coffee
- Blending smoothies, eggnog and Bellinis
- Chopping nuts or creating homemade breadcrumbs for breading



The Magic Bullet is available for purchase at www.buythebullet.com and at all major retail outlets, including Target, Wal-Mart, Walgreen's, and Bed Bath & Beyond.

Strawberries and Chantilly Cream

- 3/4 cup heavy whipping cream
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 3 pints large strawberries, cleaned, hulled, and sliced

1. Place cream, sugar and vanilla in tall bullet cup. Pulse until sugar is dissolved.
2. Continue beating mixture until cream forms soft peaks. (Dip can be made up to 1 hour in advance.)
3. Serve with strawberries.

Helpful Hint: Chantilly cream is lightly sweetened whipped cream flavored with vanilla or liqueur. For best volume, chill bullet cup in refrigerator or freezer at least 30 minutes before whipping the cream.

Peach Bellinis

- 1 cup water
- 2 cups granulated sugar
- 1 (10-ounce) package frozen sliced peaches
- 1/4 cup orange liqueur, chilled
- 3 cups peach nectar, chilled
- 2 (750-ml) bottles champagne, chilled

1. To make simple syrup, bring water to boil in small saucepan. Gradually pour in sugar, stirring until dissolved. Skim any foam from surface and set aside to cool.
2. Place half of cooled simple syrup, peach slices and orange liqueur in large bullet cup. Puree until smooth. Spoon into large glass pitcher. Process a second batch with remaining simple syrup, peach slices and orange liqueur. Spoon into another large glass pitcher. Chill until ready to serve.
3. Just before serving, add champagne to each pitcher and pour into chilled champagne flutes.

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